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**Our Reference: VTE-152-B**

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Bugel et al.  
Serial Number: 10/817,511  
Filing Date: April 2, 2004  
Examiner/Art Group Unit: Unknown/3745  
Title: MULTI-LEVEL FLUID OPERATED CYLINDER  
POSITIONING SYSTEM

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.97**

Mail Stop-Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The references listed in the attached form PTO-1449 are cited pursuant to Rule 37 C.F.R. 1.56 to meet the duty to disclose to the Patent Office all information known to the inventor, attorney or any other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application or who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.

If a written English-language translation of a non-English language document, or portion thereof, is within the possession, custody or control of, or is readily available to any individual designated in § 1.56(c), a copy of the translation accompanies this Statement.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and (e)(2) this Information Disclosure Statement includes the following Certification that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the Certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

The cited references were found within the last three months as a result of Examination of an application which has similar prior art; namely, new references cited in the Notice of Allowance dated May 24, 2005 for US Application S.N. 10/997,731, filed on November 24, 2004.

These references constitute all the information of which the individuals pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) are currently aware.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas D. Helmholtz", written over a horizontal line.

Thomas D. Helmholtz  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 33,181  
(248) 649-3333

Young & Basile, P.C.  
3001 West Big Beaver Road,  
Suite 624  
Troy, Michigan 48084-3107  
TDH/kdk



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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING AND TRANSMITTAL LETTER**


Mail Stop-Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Sir:

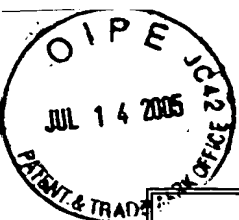
Transmitted with this document is a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO 1449 along with required cited references and return receipt postcard in the above-identified application.

☒ No additional fees required.  
☒ Please charge any deficiency or credit any excess in the enclosed fees to  
Deposit Account Number 25-0115.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on **July 12, 2005**.

  
Thomas D. Helmholdt  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 33,181  
(248) 649-3333

Young & Basile, P.C.  
3001 West Big Beaver Road,  
Suite 624  
Troy, Michigan 48084-3107  
TDH/kdk



FORM PTO-1449 LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT				ATTY. DOCKET NO. VTE-152-B		SERIAL NO. 10/817,511	
				APPLICANT Bugel et. al.			
				FILING DATE 4/2/2004		GROUP 3745	
U. S. PATENT DOCUMENT							
EXAMINER INITIALS		PATENT NO.	ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	AA	4,431,873	2/14/1984	Dunn et al.			
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
FOREIGN PATENT OR PUBLISHED PATENT APPLICATION							
		DOCUMENT NO.	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
	AJ	2004/0125472	7/01/20004	U.S.			
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						
OTHER REFERENCES (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
	AO						
	AP						
	AR						
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not considered. Include a copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							